Livestock and Seed Programs Agriculture Marketing Service US Department of Agriculture Stop 0249, Room 2092-S Washington, DC 20250-0249

From:

Corena Bowers 1471 Campus Road Los Angeles, CA 90041

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing to ask that you keep irradiated food out of the National School Lunch Program. Besides the uncertainty of the health effects, the chemicals and toxins that irradiation creates, and the masking of contaminants such as feces, vomit and pus, irradiated food does not contain the same vitamins and minerals that regular food contains. I think it is in the best interest of our nations children, our future leaders, to feed them healthy fresh food that provides as many nutrients and vitamins as possible. A lot of students depend on the National School Lunch Program for their vitamins and nutrients of the day, and it is in our best interest to keep these children healthy and well fed.

I urge you to consider waiting before you make it legal for irradiated food to enter our schools cafeterias until the research on the long-term health effects of eating irradiated meat is known. Anyway, the USDA should not let the meat industry get away with producing food that is contaminated with bacteria instead of implementing proper inspection and testing.

Good luck with your decisions, and my children and my children's children urge you to put their health at the heart of any decision you make.

Thank you,

Corena Bowers